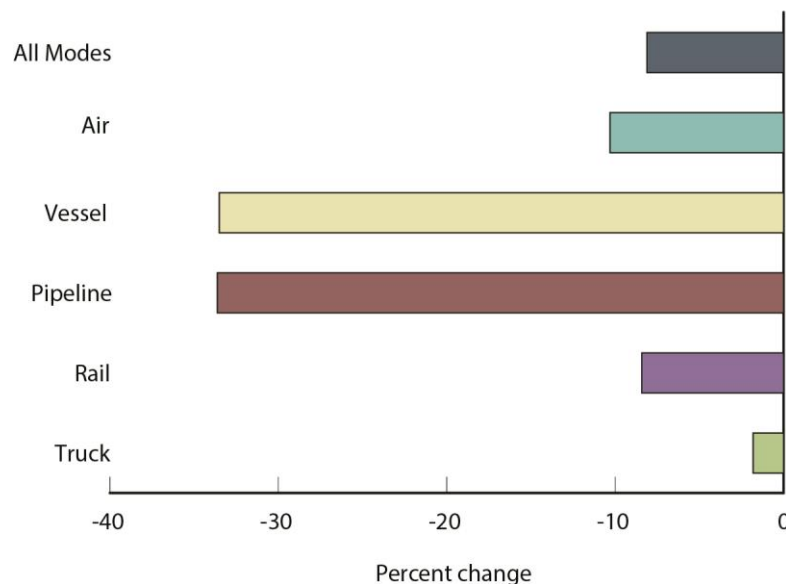


August 2015 North American Freight Numbers

Figure 1. Percent Change in Value of U.S.-NAFTA Freight Flows by Mode: August 2014 - 2015



SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, [TransBorder Freight Data](#)

The value of U.S.-NAFTA freight totaled \$92.4 billion in August 2015 as all modes of transportation carried less value of freight than a year earlier, according to the TransBorder Freight Data released today by the U.S. Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) (Figure 1, Table 1). Year-over-year, the value of U.S.-NAFTA freight flows by all modes decreased by 8.1 percent. Large decreases in the value of commodities moved by pipeline and vessel in August were due to the reduced unit price of mineral fuel.

Freight by Mode

In August 2015 compared to August 2014, the value of commodities moving by truck decreased by 1.8 percent, while rail decreased by 8.4 percent and air by 10.3 percent (Figure 1, Table 2). Vessel freight values decreased 33.5 percent and pipeline freight decreased 33.6 percent mainly due to the lower unit price of mineral fuel.

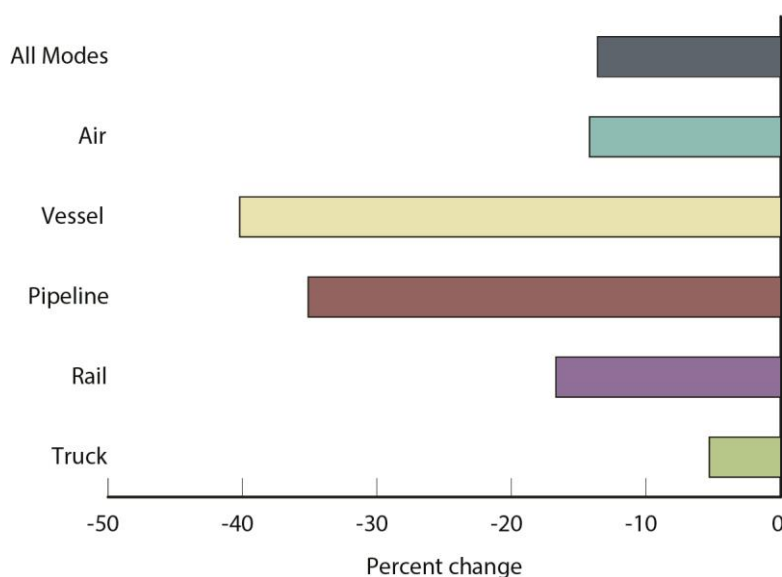
Average monthly fuel prices are available from the [U.S. Energy Information Administration](#). A decline in the value of freight shipments does not necessarily mean there was a lower volume of freight transported.

Trucks carried 63.6 percent of U.S.-NAFTA freight and are the most heavily utilized mode for moving goods to and from both U.S.-NAFTA partners. Trucks accounted for \$29.7 billion of the \$49.8 billion of imports (59.6 percent) and \$29.1 billion of the \$42.7 billion of exports (68.3 percent) (Table 2).

Rail remained the second largest mode by value, moving 15.5 percent of all U.S.-NAFTA freight, followed by vessel, 6.6 percent; pipeline, 5.4 percent; and air, 3.6 percent. The surface transportation modes of truck, rail and pipeline carried 84.5 percent of the total U.S.-NAFTA freight flows (Table 2).

U.S.-Canada Freight

Figure 2. Percent Change in Value of U.S.-Canada Freight Flows by Mode: August 2014 - 2015



SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, [TransBorder Freight Data](#)

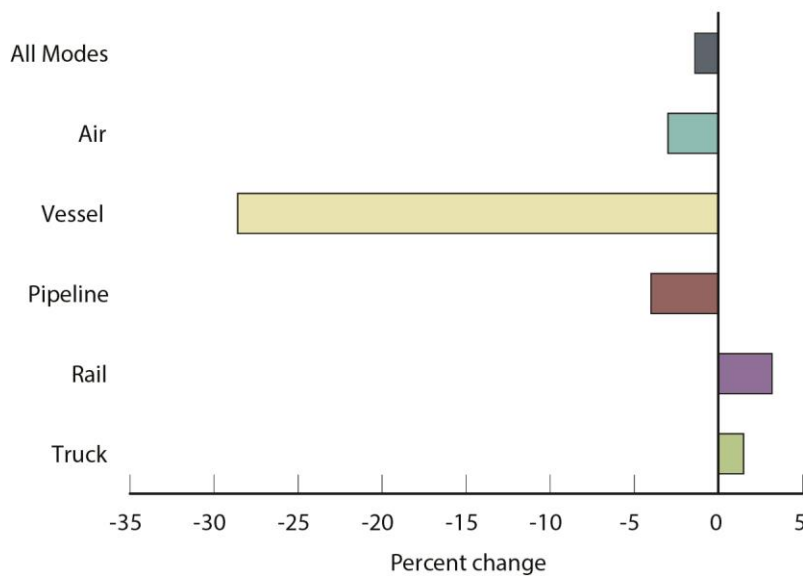
The value of U.S.-Canada freight totaled \$48.0 billion in August 2015, down 13.6 percent from August 2014, as all modes of transportation carried less value of U.S.-Canada freight than a year earlier.

Lower mineral fuel prices contributed to a year-over-year decrease in the value of freight moved between the U.S. and Canada. Mineral fuels are a large share of freight carried by pipeline and vessel, which were down 35.1 percent and 40.2 percent respectively year-over-year (Figure 2, Table 3).

Trucks carried 58.1 percent of the \$48.0 billion of freight to and from Canada, followed by rail, 15.8 percent; pipeline, 9.6 percent; vessel, 4.9 percent; and air, 4.3 percent. The surface transportation modes of truck, rail and pipeline carried 83.5 percent of the total U.S.-Canada freight flows (Table 3).

U.S.-Mexico Freight

Figure 3. Percent Change in Value of U.S.-Mexico Freight Flows by Mode: August 2014 - 2015



SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, [TransBorder Freight Data](#)

The value of U.S.-Mexico freight totaled \$44.5 billion in August 2015, down 1.4 percent from August 2014, as two out of five transportation modes – rail and truck – carried more U.S.-Mexico freight than in August 2014. Year-over-year, the value of U.S.-Mexico rail freight rose 3.2 percent, the largest percentage increase of any mode. Freight carried by truck increased by 1.5 percent. Air freight was down 3.0 percent and pipeline freight declined 4.0 percent. Vessel freight decreased by 28.6 percent mainly due to lower mineral fuel prices (Figure 3, Table 4).

Trucks carried 69.6 percent of the \$44.5 billion of freight to and from Mexico, followed by rail, 15.1 percent; vessel, 8.5 percent; air, 2.8 percent; and pipeline, 0.8 percent. The surface transportation modes of truck, rail and pipeline carried 85.5 percent of the total U.S.-Mexico freight flows (Table 4).

Commodities

In August 2015, the top commodity category for all modes transported between the U.S. and Canada was vehicles and parts, of which \$5.5 billion, or 61.1 percent, moved by truck and \$3.3 billion, and 36.4 percent, moved by rail (Figure 4). The top commodity category for all modes transported between the U.S. and Mexico in August 2015 was electrical machinery, of which \$8.2 billion, or 92.3 percent, moved by truck and \$0.4 billion, and 4.6 percent, moved by air (Figure 5).

Reporting Notes

BTS press releases and the BTS website define surface transportation modes as truck, rail and pipeline. See [North American TransBorder Freight Data](#) on the BTS website for additional data for surface modes since 1995 and all modes since 2004. The category of all modes of transportation cited in the following tables includes freight movements by truck, rail, vessel, pipeline, air, [other](#) and unknown modes of transport.

Data in this press release are not seasonally adjusted and are not adjusted for inflation. Additional summary data adjusted for inflation and exchange rates can be found on the BTS website under [TransBorder Indexed Freight Flow Data](#). The BLS indexes used in the adjustments for inflation and exchange rates may be revised in each of the three months after original publication. For more information, see [TransBorder Press Releases](#) for previous press releases and summary tables. See [TransBorder Freight Data](#) for data from previous months, and more state, port, or commodity data. BTS has scheduled the release of September TransBorder numbers for Nov. 24.

Table 1. Value of Monthly U.S.-NAFTA Freight Flows
(millions of current dollars)

Month	2013	2014	2015	Percent Change 2013-2014	Percent Change 2014-2015
January	90,766	90,326	89,258	-0.5	-1.2
February	88,894	89,557	85,723	0.7	-4.3
March	95,757	101,478	96,070	6.0	-5.3
April	98,956	100,141	93,327	1.2	-6.8
May	98,742	103,942	92,707	5.3	-10.8
June	93,502	102,978	99,030	10.1	-3.8
July	93,080	101,075	92,995	8.6	-8.0
August	96,426	100,624	92,442	4.4	-8.1
September	94,465	102,245		8.2	
October	103,140	108,243		4.9	
November	96,136	96,252		0.1	
December	90,906	95,811		5.4	
Year-to-date	756,123	790,121	741,553	4.5	-6.1
Annual	1,140,770	1,192,671		4.5	

SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, [TransBorder Freight Data](#)

NOTE: Numbers might not add to totals due to rounding. Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

Table 2. Value of Monthly U.S.-NAFTA Freight Flows by Mode of Transportation
(millions of current dollars)

Mode		August 2014	August 2015	Percent Change August 2014-2015
All Modes	Imports	53,669	49,766	-7.3
	Exports	46,955	42,676	-9.1
	Total	100,624	92,442	-8.1
All Surface Modes	Imports	44,950	43,299	-3.7
	Exports	38,057	34,790	-8.6
	Total	83,007	78,089	-5.9
Truck	Imports	28,759	29,684	3.2
	Exports	31,163	29,138	-6.5
	Total	59,922	58,822	-1.8
Rail	Imports	9,790	9,509	-2.9
	Exports	5,801	4,778	-17.6
	Total	15,591	14,286	-8.4
Pipeline	Imports	6,402	4,106	-35.9
	Exports	1,093	874	-20.0
	Total	7,495	4,981	-33.6
Vessel	Imports	5,250	3,134	-40.3
	Exports	3,974	2,998	-24.6
	Total	9,224	6,132	-33.5
Air	Imports	1,653	1,408	-14.9
	Exports	2,049	1,913	-6.6
	Total	3,702	3,321	-10.3

SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, [TransBorder Freight Data](#)

NOTES: Numbers might not add to totals due to rounding. Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding. The value of trade for all modes is not equal to the sum of truck, rail, pipeline, vessel and air modes, it also includes shipments made by mail, foreign trade zones, and other transportation. For additional detail, please refer to the "Data Fields" section of the TransBorder web page:

http://www.bts.gov/programs/international/TransBorder/TBDR_DataFields.html

Table 3. Value of Monthly U.S.-Canada Freight Flows by Mode of Transportation
(millions of current dollars)

Mode		August 2014	August 2015	Percent Change August 2014-2015
All Modes	Imports	28,903	24,886	-13.9
	Exports	26,618	23,065	-13.4
	Total	55,521	47,951	-13.6
All Surface Modes	Imports	24,264	21,471	-11.5
	Exports	21,361	18,575	-13.0
	Total	45,625	40,046	-12.2
Truck	Imports	11,960	12,182	1.9
	Exports	17,445	15,658	-10.2
	Total	29,405	27,840	-5.3
Rail	Imports	5,924	5,203	-12.2
	Exports	3,172	2,378	-25.0
	Total	9,096	7,581	-16.7
Pipeline	Imports	6,380	4,086	-36.0
	Exports	745	539	-27.7
	Total	7,125	4,624	-35.1
Vessel	Imports	2,169	1,244	-42.6
	Exports	1,779	1,118	-37.1
	Total	3,948	2,362	-40.2
Air	Imports	1,086	853	-21.4
	Exports	1,314	1,205	-8.3
	Total	2,400	2,058	-14.2

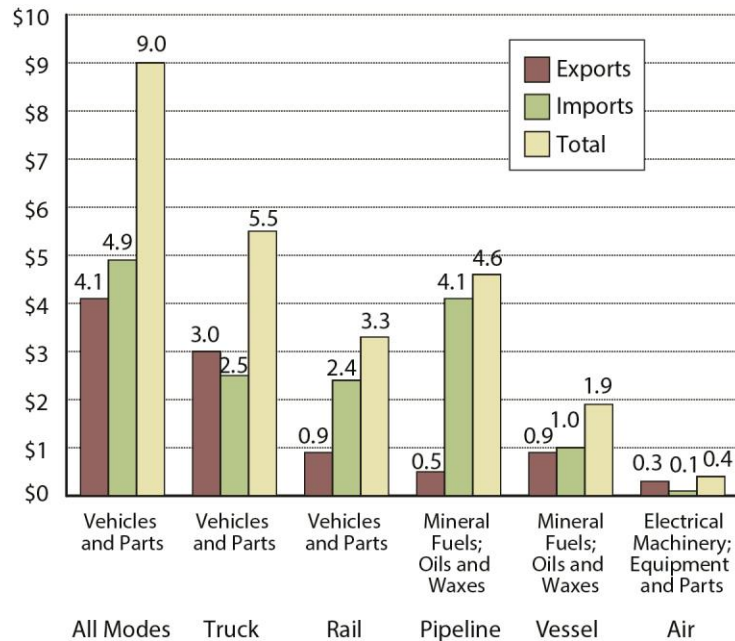
SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, [TransBorder Freight Data](http://www.bts.gov/programs/international/TransBorder/TBDR_DataFields.html)

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The value of trade for all modes is not equal to the sum of truck, rail, pipeline, vessel and air modes, it also includes shipments made by mail, foreign trade zones, and other transportation. For additional detail, please refer to the "Data Fields" section of the TransBorder web page:

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Figure 4. Top Commodity Transported between the U.S. and Canada for Each Mode of Transportation, August 2015
(billions of current dollars)



SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, [TransBorder Freight Data](#)

NOTE: Numbers might not add to totals due to rounding.

Table 4. Value of Monthly U.S.-Mexico Freight Flows by Mode of Transportation
(millions of current dollars)

Mode		August 2014	August 2015	Percent Change August 2014-2015
All Modes	Imports	24,766	24,880	0.5
	Exports	20,337	19,612	-3.6
	Total	45,103	44,492	-1.4
All Surface Modes	Imports	20,687	21,828	5.5
	Exports	16,696	16,215	-2.9
	Total	37,382	38,043	1.8
Truck	Imports	16,799	17,502	4.2
	Exports	13,718	13,480	-1.7
	Total	30,517	30,982	1.5
Rail	Imports	3,865	4,306	11.4
	Exports	2,629	2,400	-8.7
	Total	6,495	6,705	3.2
Pipeline	Imports	23	21	-9.0
	Exports	348	336	-3.6
	Total	371	356	-4.0
Vessel	Imports	3,081	1,890	-38.7
	Exports	2,195	1,880	-14.4
	Total	5,277	3,770	-28.6
Air	Imports	567	554	-2.2
	Exports	735	708	-3.6
	Total	1,302	1,262	-3.0

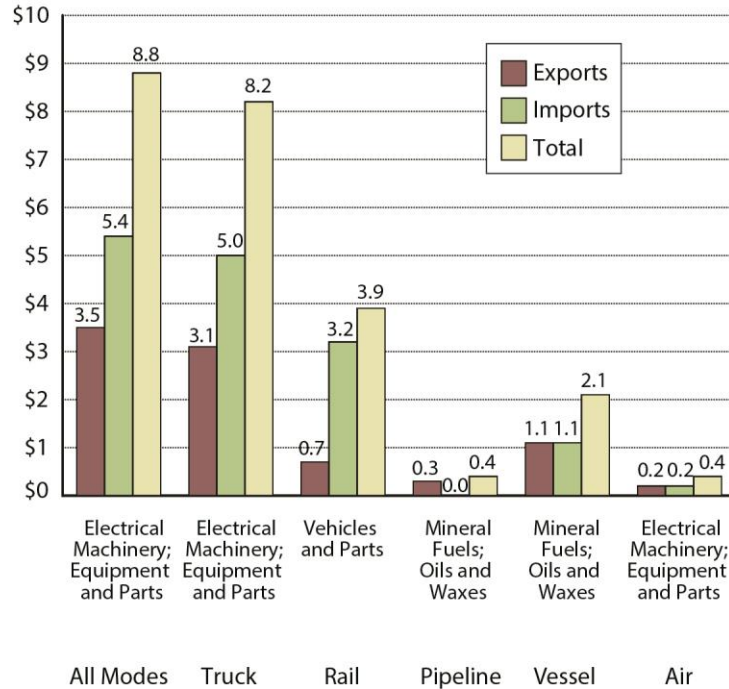
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Figure 5. Top Commodity Transported between the U.S. and Mexico for Each Mode of Transportation, August 2015
(billions of current dollars)



SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, [TransBorder Freight Data](#)
NOTE: Numbers might not add to totals due to rounding.